

Nurse-Physician Collaboration and its relation with Nurses Autonomy in Critical Care Units

Abstract

Background and Aim: The poor collaboration of physicians and nurses and low professional autonomy can limit nurses' ability to take care of the patient. The aim of this study was to determine the status of cooperation between doctors and nurses and its relation with the autonomy of nurses in critical care units of Ardabil.

Methods: This descriptive correlational study was performed on 126 nurses working in critical care units of Ardabil. The data were collected using Jefferson Cooperative Questionnaire and Dempester Professional autonomy. The results were analyzed using descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation, frequency) and inferential statistics (T test, ANOVA and Pearson).

Results: The average score of nurse-physician collaboration was 47.83 ± 3.9 , indicating good cooperation between doctors and nurses in critical care units. 73% of nurses considered their autonomy to be moderate and 27% high. There was no significant relationship between nurse-physician collaboration and professional autonomy of nurses ($P > 0.05$).

Conclusion: Participants in the study had a positive attitude towards cooperating with doctors and had moderate professional autonomy. Therefore due to the importance of nurse-physician collaboration and the professional autonomy of nurses and their impact on patient outcomes, steps should be taken to improve the level of nurse-physician collaboration and the professional autonomy of nurses.

Keywords: Autonomy, Nurse-Physician Collaboration, Critical Care Unit